

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

13 FEB. 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. Laos

Souvanna and Souphannouvong were unyielding on the question of lifting military pressure on Nam Tha when they saw the British and Soviet ambassadors yesterday. In a subsequent meeting the British ambassador found Souvanna more tractable on this score and "encouraged" at word that the US would go along with him in the event he came up with a good cabinet. The prospects now seem to favor a Souvanna-Phoumi meeting at Luang Prabang but, given Phoumi's and Souphannouvong's attitudes, the outlook for progress there is no brighter than ever.

2. Tense quiet envelops Katanga

some quieting signs in Katanga-UN relations but concern lest a false step upset the still-fragile balance. The main danger lies in the possibility that some of the UN representatives on the spot, in pressing Tshombé for more rapid progress, will give bellicose elements among the UN military and Katangan extremists an excuse to touch off a third round of fighting.

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4. Brazilians not helpful
on Cuban UN resolution

Despite assurances of a hands-off position given our UN delegation, the Brazilian ambassador has indicated to members of the neutralist bloc that his government is in favor of a resolution calling on Cuba and the US to settle their differences by peaceful means. Beyond this, he has said that he will canvass for support along these lines among other Latin Americans. There is a good chance that this move will encourage the Afro-Asians, who have stayed out so far, to come in with a resolution lying somewhere in between the US and Cuban positions.

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5. **Guinea-Soviet
relations**

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b. A delivery of small Soviet
naval craft is now on the way to Guinea.

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6. **Geneva Meeting**

a. Ambassador Thompson thinks that
unless our response to Khrushchev's
proposal is fairly definite regarding
heads of government participation before
June 1 (he recommends 7 May), Khrushchev
is quite capable of attending
even if Western heads don't.

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NOTES

- A. The general strike went off on schedule in France this morning, but as of 0830 we had received no reports of serious disorders.
- B. The Cuban representative to the OAS is acting as though he thinks his days in Washington and the organization are numbered. Last week he was looking into arrangements for getting himself and his mission's effects back to Havana. 50X1
- C. Nepalese exiles have carried out new raids across the Indian border. They are managing to remain a thorn in King Mahendra's side, but so far their main damage has been to Indian-Nepalese relations.
- D. Unhappiness among the Dominican military, particularly the air force, over the government's go-slow handling of the leftist problem, is contributing to continuing instability.
- E. The official Congolese News Agency has announced that Adoula has accepted an invitation to visit Moscow sometime this summer.

DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST

I.

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II.

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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE